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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

COMMITTEES:
ARMED SERVICES
SUBCOMMITTEES:
CHAIRMAN, READINESS
SEAPOWERS AND EXPEDITIONARY FORCES

TRANSPORTATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE

SUBCOMMITTEES:
HIGHWAYS AND TRANSIT
WATER RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT
AVIATION

December 2, 2009

The Honorable James L. Oberstar
Chairman
Committee on Transportation and
Infrastructure
2165 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John L. Mica
Ranking Member
Committee on Transportation and
Infrastructure
2163 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Oberstar and Ranking Member Mica:

I am writing to respectfully request that the following legislative proposals and projects be included in the Water Resources Development Act of 2010. I appreciate consideration of the following projects:

- Project 111-TX-27th-001: Include as specific project under Section 211(f) of WRDA 1996 and include ability of USACE to use previously appropriated funds under new designation
- Project 111-TX-27th-002: Increase authorized project cost for Corpus Christi Ship Channel project, Section 1001(40) WRDA 2007.
- Project 111-TX-27th-003: Modify CC Ship Channel project, Sect 1001(40) WRDA 2007 to credit Tule Lake Lift Bridge foundation/fender system removal cost to non-federal share
- Project 111-TX-27th-004: Determination and designation of specific land areas to be used to place future dredge material created from maintenance dredging of the ship channel.

Enclosed you will find two Congressional Earmark Certification forms with original signatures, a letter of support from the local project sponsor, and a copy of the receipt for each project.

I am also requesting a change in federal policy for projects in colonias. These are communities along the border with Mexico with no tax base and little resources to construct necessary infrastructure. In order to help these communities meet their needs, I am requesting the following language to adjust the local cost share for these projects.

Colonias.—Section 219(e) of the Water Resources Development Act of 1992 (106 Stat. 4835; 110 Stat. 3757; 113 Stat. 334) is further amended by adding the following sentence to the end of paragraph (9) — “The non-Federal share of the cost of projects for which assistance is provided under this section shall be 5 percent.”

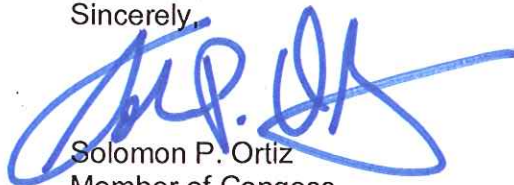
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There are also Port Improvement Projects in my Congressional District that I would like to have considered for authorization if a category for these types of projects should be included in the next Water Resources Development Act. I am attaching a letter of support from the non-federal sponsor and an information paper for the following projects:

- Oil Dock 6, Brownsville Navigation District, Texas,
- Cargo Dock 16, Brownsville Navigation District, Texas,
- Rail Capacity Improvements, Brownsville Navigation District, Texas
- La Quinta Dock and Slip, Port of Corpus Christi Authority, Texas

If I can provide you with any further information, please feel free to contact my staffer, Mac King, Deputy Chief of Staff, at 202-225-7742.

Sincerely,



Solomon P. Ortiz
Member of Congress

Enclosures